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Sea turtle conservation by Turtugaruba Foundation

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Trump is returning to Michigan with hopes of repeating the battleground success he found in 2016

By JOEY CAPPELLETTI Associated Press

LANSING, Mich. (AP) — Donald Trump is set to appear in Michigan on Sunday as he looks to reclaim territory that helped propel him to the White House but slipped from his grasp four years later.

Campaigning for a return to the presidency while facing a federal indictment for allegedly mishandling classified documents, Trump will speak in suburban Detroit, where he lost ground between 2016 and 2020 and would need to win it back if he becomes the 2024 Republican nominee. He would have to reverse the recent trend in Michigan that has seen Democrats make some of their biggest gains nationally since Trump's reelection loss.

Trump is scheduled to speak at Oakland County GOP's Lincoln Day Dinner, where he is being honored by the party as its "Man of the Decade."

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FILE - Former President Donald Trump tosses caps to the crowd as he steps onstage during a rally at the Macomb Community College Sports & Expo Center in Warren, Mich., Saturday, Oct. 1, 2022. Trump is set to appear in Michigan on Sunday for one of his first public appearances since a federal indictment earlier this month. The former president will speak just outside Detroit at the Oakland County GOP's Lincoln Day Dinner where he will be honored by the party as the "Man of the Decade." (Todd McInturf/Detroit News via AP, File)

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Trump is returning to Michigan with hopes of repeating the battleground success he found in 2016

Continued from Front

It will be his first campaign appearance in Michigan, one of three states, along with Pennsylvania and Wisconsin, that flipped in 2016 to put Trump in the White House and went for Democrat Joe Biden four years later. Trump's popularity in Michigan has taken a hit since 2016. "By Trump's calculations, he needs to win Michigan again to be the president. But he's been very disruptive here," said Dave Trott, a former GOP congressman. "Trump largely is the reason why the Michigan Republican Party is dead." Last year, Trump's endorsed candidates in Michigan were among the



FILE - Former President Donald Trump speaks at his Mar-a-Lago estate hours after being arraigned in New York City, Tuesday, April 4, 2023, in Palm Beach, Fla. Trump is set to appear in Michigan on Sunday for one of his first public appearances since a federal indictment earlier this month. The former president will speak just outside Detroit at the Oakland County GOP's Lincoln Day Dinner where he will be honored by the party as the "Man of the Decade." (AP Photo/Rebecca Blackwell, File)

loudest in repeating his unfounded claims that the 2020 election was rigged. Trump's choice for attorney general, Matthew DePer-

no, spent the final months of his campaign under investigation into whether he should be criminally charged for attempting to gain access to voting machines after the 2020 election. Secretary of State candidate Kristina Karamo, a former community college professor, was hand-picked by Trump to run for secretary of state after claiming she saw election fraud as a poll challenger in Detroit. In November, the statewide candidates he backed were overwhelmingly defeated, including Tudor Dixon, who lost by over 10 percentage points to Democratic Gov. Gretchen Whitmer. "People who know Michigan electoral politics would say that it's pretty important that if Republicans are going to carry the state, they need to win Oakland County," Trott said. While Trump lost the county in 2016 and 2020, Biden received nearly 100,000 more votes than Democratic nominee Hillary Clinton did there and won the state by about 155,000 votes, or 2.8 percentage points. Trott, who represented Oakland County in the U.S. House from 2015 to 2019, initially endorsed Trump in

2016 but later said Trump was "unfit for office." Trump's support among Republicans in the Legislature has declined, with 25 lawmakers having already publicly backed Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis for president. Among state GOP officials, however, support for Trump has not wavered. In February, Republican precinct delegates selected Karamo to lead the party after she lost by 14% in the midterms. One of the first moves by new party leadership was a vote to change the state's traditional process of allocating all presidential delegates based on a primary open to the public. Under a new plan widely expected to help Trump, Michigan will award just 16 of the state's 55 delegates based on the results of the Feb. 27 primary. The distribution of the remaining 39 delegates will come four days later in closed-door caucus meetings, conducted by the same party members who selected Karamo to lead the party. □

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At least three dead and five injured at early morning shootings in Kansas City, Missouri

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — At least three people have been found dead, and at least five others are thought to be injured, police in Missouri said while investigating two shootings with multiple victims in the same area of Kansas City early Sunday morning. Officers were called to the intersection of 57th Street and Prospect Avenue just after 4:30 a.m. where they found three shooting victims — two men and one woman — dead in a parking lot and in the street, Kansas City Police Department spokesperson Jake Becchina said in an email. Police were told that five other shooting victims with injuries that were not life-threatening arrived at various hospitals by private vehicles or ambulance, Bec-

china said, adding: "Preliminary information indicates there was a large gathering of people in a parking lot at the intersection when the victims were shot." An initial investigation by police indicates the gathering took place outside an auto mechanic shop, where police have been called to before, KSHB-TV reported. "My condolences to the families of three people killed in a shooting this morning at an apparent after-hours gathering near 57 and Prospect. If the business knew persons would be present, without security, selling alcohol, and thwarting our laws, that business should be closed," Kansas City, Missouri, Mayor Quinton Lucas posted on Twitter. □

US Navy: Hefty salvage system not required in probe of fatal Titan implosion

By JENNIFER McDERMOTT and STEVE LeBLANC Associated Press

The U.S. Navy said Sunday that it won't be using a large piece of salvage equipment that it had deployed to the effort to retrieve the Titan submersible. The Flyaway Deep Ocean Salvage System had the capability of lifting an intact Titan back to the surface. The U.S. Coast Guard announced on Thursday that debris from the submersible had been found roughly 1,600 feet (488 meters) from the Titanic in North Atlantic waters.

The Titan submersible imploded on its way to tour the Titanic wreckage, killing all five on board. Debris was located about 12,500 feet (3,810 meters) underwater.

The Navy would only use the ocean salvage system if there were pieces large enough to require the use of the specialized equipment.

The Navy describes the Flyaway Deep Ocean Salvage System as a "portable, ship lift system designed to provide reliable deep ocean lifting capacity of up to 60,000 pounds for the recovery of large, bulky, and heavy sunken objects such as aircraft or small vessels."

The Titan weighed 20,000 pounds (9,071 kilograms).

The Navy is continuing to support the U.S. Coast Guard as operations continue.

On Saturday, the Transportation Safety Board of Canada said that it's begun an investigation into the loss of the submersible and has been speaking with those who traveled on Titan's mothership, the Polar Prince.

Authorities from the U.S. and Canada began the process of probing the cause of the underwater implosion and are grappling with questions of who is responsible for determining how the tragedy unfolded.

"We are conducting a safety investigation in Canada

given that this was a Canadian-flagged vessel that departed a Canadian port and was involved in this occurrence, albeit in international waters," said Kathy Fox, chair of the transportation board. "Other agencies may choose to conduct investigations."

The Polar Prince left Newfoundland on June 16, towing the ill-fated Titan. There were 41 people on board — 17 crew members and 24 others — including the five-man team.

Fox said the TSB will share information they collect with other agencies, like the U.S. National Transportation Safety Board and the U.S. Coast Guard, within the limits of Canadian law. Voice recordings and witness statements are protected under Canadian law, she said.

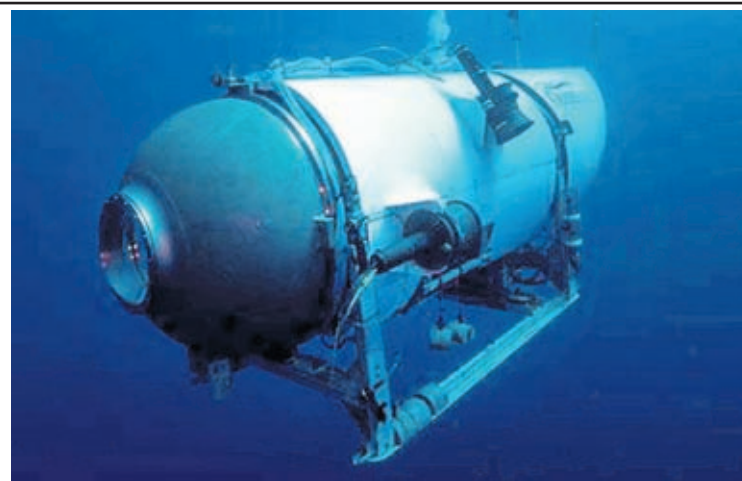
The Royal Canadian Mounted Police also announced Saturday that they are studying the circumstances that led to the Titan deaths to decide whether a full investigation is warranted. That full probe will only take place if it appears criminal, federal or

provincial law may have been broken, officials said. The Coast Guard led the initial search and rescue mission, a massive international effort that likely cost millions of dollars.

It was not entirely clear who would have the authority to lead what is sure to be a complex investigation involving several countries. OceanGate Expeditions, the company that owned and operated the Titan, is based in the U.S. but the submersible was registered in the Bahamas. OceanGate is based in Everett, Washington, but closed when the Titan was found. Meanwhile, the Titan's mother ship, the Polar Prince, was from Canada, and those killed were from England, Pakistan, France, and the U.S.

The National Transportation Safety Board said Friday that the U.S. Coast Guard has declared the loss of the Titan submersible to be a "major marine casualty" and the Coast Guard will lead the investigation.

The Coast Guard has not confirmed that it will take the lead.



FILE - This undated image provided by OceanGate Expeditions in June 2021 shows the company's Titan submersible. The wrecks of the Titanic and the Titan sit on the ocean floor, separated by 1,600 feet (490 meters) and 111 years of history. How they came together unfolded over an intense week that raised temporary hopes and left lingering questions.

(OceanGate Expeditions via AP, File)

The deep-sea investigations promise to be long and painstaking. How the overall investigation will proceed is complicated by the fact that the world of deep-sea exploration is not well-regulated.

A key part of any investigation is likely to be the Titan itself. The Titan was not registered as a U.S. vessel or with international agencies that regulate safety. And it wasn't classified by a maritime industry group that sets standards on matters such as hull construction. OceanGate CEO Stockton Rush, who was piloting the Titan when it imploded, had complained that regulations can stifle progress.

One question that seems at least partially resolved is when the implosion likely happened.

After the Titan was reported missing, the Navy went back and analyzed its acoustic data and found an "anomaly" Sunday that was consistent with an implosion or explosion in the general vicinity of where the vessel was operating when communications were lost, said a senior U.S. Navy official.

The Navy passed on the information to the Coast Guard, which continued its search because the data was not considered definitive, according to the official, who spoke on condition of anonymity to discuss a sensitive acoustic detection system.

The Titan launched at 8 a.m. that day and was reported overdue that afternoon about 435 miles (700 kilometers) south of St. John's, Newfoundland. Rescuers rushed ships, planes and other equipment to the area.

Any sliver of hope that remained for finding the crew alive was wiped away early Thursday, when the Coast Guard announced that debris had been found near the Titanic.

Killed in the implosion were Rush, two members of a prominent Pakistani family, Shahzada Dawood and his son Suleman Dawood; British adventurer Hamish Harding; and Titanic expert Paul-Henri Nargeolet.

Questions about the submersible's safety were raised by both by a former company employee and former passengers. □



Components of a Flyaway Deep Ocean Salvage System, or FADOSS, rest on the deck of a vessel in this undated photo provided by the U.S. Navy Office of Information. The U.S. Navy said Sunday, June 25, 2023, that it won't be using a Flyaway Deep Ocean Salvage System it had deployed to the effort to retrieve the Titan submersible. The Navy would only use the system if there were pieces large enough to require the specialized equipment. The submersible imploded on its way to tour the Titanic wreckage, killing all five on board.

(U.S. Navy Office of Information via AP)

Water being tested where freight train carrying hazardous material plunged into Yellowstone River

COLUMBUS, Mont. (AP) —

Authorities on Sunday were testing the water quality along a stretch of the Yellowstone River where mangled cars carrying hazardous materials remained after crashing into the waterway following a bridge collapse. Seven train cars carrying hot asphalt and molten sulfur fell into the rushing river Saturday morning near the town of Columbus, about 40 miles (about 64 kilometers) west of Billings. The area is in a sparsely populated section of the Yellowstone River Valley, surrounded by ranch and farmland.

Water testing began Saturday and will continue as crews work to remove the cars, a spokesperson for train operator Montana Rail Link, Andy Garland, said in a statement Sunday. Montana Rail Link was working with the Montana Department of Environmental Quality and the federal Environmental Protection Agency on the cleanup, removal and restoration efforts, he said.

"Montana Rail Link remains committed to addressing any potential impacts to the area as a result of this



Several train cars are immersed in the Yellowstone River after a bridge collapse near Columbus, Mont., on Saturday, June 24, 2023. The bridge collapsed overnight, causing a train that was traveling over it to plunge into the water below. Authorities on Sunday were testing the water quality along a stretch of the Yellowstone River where mangled cars carrying hazardous materials remained after crashing into the waterway following a bridge collapse.

(AP Photo/Matthew Brown)

incident," he said.

The amount of cargo that spilled into the river and the danger it poses to those who rely on the river for drinking and irrigation is still not known, said David Samey, the head of Stillwater County Disaster and Emergency Services. Samey said the water test-

ing was being done by the EPA and state regulators. However, Garland said both hot asphalt and molten sulfur harden and solidify quickly when mixed with water and modeling suggests that the substances are not likely to move very far downstream. Crews were still trying to

figure out the best way to remove the cars since the crash was so extensive and there was a lot of damage to the cars, Samey said.

The Yellowstone saw record flooding in 2022 that caused extensive damage to Yellowstone National Park and adjacent towns in Montana. The river where

the bridge collapsed flows away from Yellowstone National Park, which is about 110 miles (177 kilometers) southwest. Robert Bea, a retired engineering professor at the University of California Berkeley who has analyzed the causes of hundreds of major disasters, said repeated years of heavy river flows provided a clue to the possible cause. "The high water flow translates to high forces acting directly on the pier and, importantly, on the river bottom," Bea said Saturday. "You can have erosion or scour that removes support from the foundation. High forces translate to a high likelihood of a structural or foundation failure that could act as a trigger to initiate the accident."

An old highway bridge that paralleled the railroad bridge — together, they were called the Twin Bridges — was removed in 2021 after the Montana Department of Transportation determined it was in imminent danger of falling. The railroad bridge is inspected twice a year and the most recent inspection was performed in May, Garland said. □

Kansas' attorney general is moving to block trans people from changing their birth certificates



FILE - Kansas Attorney General Kris Kobach answers questions from reporters during a news conference outside his office May 1, 2023, in Topeka, Kan. Transgender people born in Kansas could be prevented from changing their birth certificates to reflect their gender identities if Kobach is successful with a legal move he launched late Friday, June 23. Kobach filed a request in federal court asking a judge to end a requirement that Kansas allow transgender people to change their birth certificates.

(AP Photo/John Hanna, File)

By JOHN HANNA
AP Political Writer

TOPEKA, Kan. (AP) — Transgender people born in Kansas could be prevented from changing their birth certificates to reflect their gender identities if the state's conservative Republican attorney general is successful with a legal move he launched late Friday.

Attorney General Kris Kobach filed a request in federal court asking a judge to end a requirement for Kansas to allow transgender people to change their birth certificates.

He is not seeking to undo past changes, only prevent them going forward.

U.S. District Judge Daniel

Crabtree imposed the requirement in 2019 to settle a lawsuit filed by four transgender Kansas residents against three state health department officials.

The suit challenged a policy that critics said prevented transgender people from making changes even after transitioning, legally changing their names and obtaining new driver's licenses and Social Security cards.

Luc Bensimon, a Black transgender activist who was one of the plaintiffs in that lawsuit, said Saturday he was already getting calls and emails from people trying to change their birth certificates who are concerned they won't be

able to complete the process.

It wasn't clear whether Kobach's effort would succeed, given a U.S. Supreme Court decision in 2020 declaring a federal law barring sex discrimination in employment also prevents discrimination based on sexual orientation or gender identity.

Also in 2020, federal judges in Idaho and Ohio struck down rules against transgender people changing their birth certificates.

But this month, federal judges in Tennessee and Oklahoma dismissed challenges to two of the nation's few remaining state policies against such changes. □

Beijing heat wave clouds long weekend and sets multi-day temperature record

By SIMINA MISTREANU

Associated Press

TAIPEI, Taiwan (AP) — Beijing and parts of northern China are experiencing record temperatures, with authorities urging people to limit their time outdoors. The Nanjiao observatory in southern Beijing on Saturday for the first time recorded temperatures above 40 degrees Celsius (104 degrees Fahrenheit) for a third consecutive day, according to the China Meteorological Administration.

In nearby Hebei province and the port city of Tianjin, temperatures also soared above 40 C over the past few days, prompting authorities to issue "red" alerts for extreme weather.

In China's four-tier weather alert system, red indicates the most severe conditions, ones with potential health and safety hazards.

Other countries in Asia have experienced deadly heat waves in recent weeks, which scientists say are aggravated by rising global temperatures, caused partly by the burning of fossil fuels. Beijing experienced its second-hottest day on record Thursday, when temperatures soared



People use a sun hat and an umbrella to protect themselves from the sun as they walk outside a shopping mall on an unseasonably hot day in Beijing, Saturday, June 24, 2023. Authorities continued a rare red alert for high temperatures in parts of China's capital on Saturday, the highest level of warning, as highs were once again expected to climb to around 40 degrees Celsius (104 degrees Fahrenheit).

(AP Photo/Mark Schiefelbein)

to 41.1 C (106 F). It was also the highest temperature ever recorded in China's capital during the month of June. The city experienced its all-time recorded high of 41.9 C (107 F) on July 24, 1999. Chinese meteorologists say the current heat wave was caused by warm air masses associated with

high-pressure ridges in the atmosphere, compounded by thin cloud covers and long daylight hours around the summer solstice. The hot weather has coincided with a three-day public holiday, the Dragon Boat Festival, devoted to eating rice dumplings and racing boats propelled by

teams of paddlers. Beijing's weather authorities urged residents to avoid exercising outdoors for long periods and take measures to shield from the sun.

Temperatures in the capital were expected to drop to around 34 C (93 F) Monday before rising again later next week. □

German lawmakers approve a plan to attract skilled workers to plug the country's labor gap

BERLIN (AP) — Germany's parliament on Friday approved plans to attract more skilled workers to Europe's biggest economy and help address labor shortages in a growing number of professions.

Lawmakers voted 388-234 in favor of the legislation, with 31 abstentions. It foresees a "points system" taking into account professional experience and other factors, along the lines of systems already used by countries such as Canada. It will ease entry rules for information technology specialists who lack university degrees but have other qualifications.

Asylum seekers who arrived before March 29 and



Nancy Faeser, Federal Minister of the Interior and Home Affairs, speaks during the debate on the skilled labor immigration bill at the plenary session in the German Bundestag in Berlin, Friday June 23, 2023. Germany's parliament on Friday approved plans to attract more skilled workers to Europe's biggest economy and help address labor shortages in a growing number of professions. (Bernd von Jutrczenka/dpa via AP)

have both qualifications and a job offer can get a residence permit as a professional if they withdraw

their asylum applications — eliminating the need to leave the country and apply anew for a work permit.

Highly skilled workers will be allowed to bring more relatives to Germany, so long as they can support them financially. Germany has grappled for years with the need to attract more skilled workers from outside the European Union. Experts say the country needs about 400,000 skilled immigrants each year as its aging workforce shrinks.

"The shortage of skilled labor is considered one of the biggest brakes on economic growth in Germany, and skilled workers are missing everywhere," Interior Minister Nancy Faeser told lawmakers. She described the legislation as "a huge step for the future of our country." □

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Guatemalans choose new president after a tumultuous electoral season

GUATEMALA CITY (AP) —

Guatemalans voted Sunday to elect a new president and vice president as well as fill all congressional seats and hundreds of local posts after one of the most tumultuous electoral seasons in the Central American nation's recent history. Many Guatemalans expressed disappointment with their presidential choices after three opposition candidates were excluded by authorities. A large number of null ballots were expected, and experts said it could depress turnout.

With none of the 22 presidential candidates polling near the required 50% threshold for winning outright, a second round of voting on Aug. 20 between the top two finishers was almost certain.

At the Mixed Urban School No. 2, a combined elementary and middle school in Sumpango, voters began lining up outside its muralled wall an hour before voting was scheduled to begin. The town of about 37,000 sits in the mountains less than an hour west of the capital. Voting appeared orderly.

In San Jose del Golfo in central Guatemala, there was still no voting by midday. Locals in the central highlands town said people



Edmond Mulet, presidential candidate of the Cabal party, stains his finger with electoral ink after voting during general elections in Guatemala City, Sunday, June 25, 2023.

(AP Photo/Wilder Lopez)

from outside the municipality were being bused in to vote and did not allow the voting center to open.

When electoral authorities tried to open a new voting location in the town they were blocked by locals, according to a statement from the Guatemala department election board. National Police launched tear gas in an attempt to clear the crowd of about 300, which set people running and triggered some rock throwing by locals. There were approximately 100 to 150 police and sol-

diers and more were arriving. In San Martin Zapotitlan, about 110 miles (177 kilometers) west of Guatemala City, locals also reacted angrily to reports that outsiders had been brought in to vote. Local outlet NotiReu showed images of what it said were a pile of burned ballots. President Alejandro Giamattei, who could not seek re-election, had said Friday that the elections are "one more sign that we live in a stable democracy, something that is consolidated with periodic, free and par-

ticipatory elections."

On Sunday, the president said there would be voting in San Jose del Golfo and that two polling places were being prepared to open.

Accusations from both inside and outside Guatemala that the vote was unfairly skewed to favor the political establishment rose after several outsider candidates were excluded by the Supreme Electoral Tribunal, the highest authority on the matter.

Among those barred from the ballot was Thelma Ca-

brera, a leftist and the only indigenous woman candidate who allegedly didn't meet requirements to run.

Carlos Pineda, a right-wing populist who was leading in opinion polls, was denied a spot due to alleged irregularities in his nomination. Roberto Arzú, a conservative law-and-order candidate, was barred for allegedly started his campaign too early.

The two leading candidates favored to advance to a runoff vote were Sandra Torres, who divorced social democratic President Álvaro Colom in 2011 while he was in office, and diplomat Edmond Mulet. Zury Ríos Sosa, the daughter of the former dictator Efraín Ríos Montt, also was considered a contender.

All three are on the more conservative side of the political spectrum and campaigned promising to install tough security measures like President Nayib Bukele in neighboring El Salvador and promoting conservative family values.

Torres, making her third try to win the presidency, also promised bags of basic food items for those in need and cuts in taxes on basic foods. Mulet said he would give Guatemalans free medicine and support senior citizens and single mothers. □



By SIMINA MISTREANU Associated Press

TAIPEI, Taiwan (AP) — Russia said on Sunday that China threw its support behind President Vladimir Putin's efforts to stabilize the country after an aborted rebellion against the Kremlin by

an army of mercenaries. The Russian Foreign Ministry said China declared support for the leadership in Moscow during a previously unannounced trip to Beijing by Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Andrei Rudenko.

Russia says China backs its efforts to stabilize the country after mercenary rebellion

"The Chinese side expressed support for the efforts of the leadership of the Russian Federation to stabilize the situation in the country in connection with the events of June 24, and reaffirmed its interest in strengthening the unity and further prosperity of Russia," the Russian statement said. Rudenko met with Chinese Foreign Minister Qin Gang to discuss "international and regional issues of common concern," the Chinese Foreign Ministry said on its website.

Rudenko's visit came just a day after Yevgeny Prigozhin, head of private

mercenary army Wagner Group, ordered his troops to march on Moscow in the greatest challenge to Putin's more than two decades in power. Prigozhin later on Saturday reached a deal with the Kremlin to go into exile.

It was unclear whether Rudenko's visit to China was in response to the rebellion.

The Chinese Foreign Ministry said in a statement late Sunday that the uprising was "Russia's internal affair."

"As a friendly neighbor and comprehensive strategic partner in the new

era, China supports Russia in maintaining national stability and achieving development and prosperity," it said, without explicitly referencing Russia's leadership. China and Russia, while not formal allies, have maintained close ties throughout Moscow's invasion of Ukraine, which China has refused to condemn.

The United States and other Western powers have urged Beijing not to supply Russia with arms that could be used in the Ukraine conflict. China in May sent an envoy to Ukraine and Russia in an attempt to mediate talks to end the war. □



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Aruban legends: Frenchman's Pass

(Oranjestad)—If you ever plan on taking a group tour of the island, you may pass through the Frenchman's Pass in Balashi. The Frenchman's pass (known to locals as "Franse Pas") remains a mysterious—and spooky—road of which its legend is told from generation to generation.

The history of the Frenchman's pass—and how it got its name—dates back to the colonization era, when the French tried to colonize the island, but were met with an angry mob of indigenous settlers, refusing to give up their land. However, as the French were heavily equipped with fire arms, the indigenous settlers began to retreat, and

hid away in nearby caves. The French colonizers tried to smoke them out of the caves, but the indigenous settlers ended up inhaling too much smoke and most died in those caves. From then on, this passage was known as Frenchman's Pass, and there have been many accounts of spirits roaming the area of Spanish Lagoon.

There are many ghost stories surrounding this area, but one of the most famous one involves a lonely hitchhiker, trying to find a ride back home in the dark rainy night.

Sometime after trying to hitchhike, the man saw a car approaching, appear-

ing almost ghost-like in the rain. However, since he needed a ride real bad, he didn't think twice and jumped in. But to his horror, he noticed that there was no driver in the front. Paralyzed with fear, he didn't dare to get out, and the car started to move.

When approaching a sharp turn, the hitch hiker braced for impact, but just when he thought the car might drive straight off the road and crash, he saw a hand appear out the window and turn the wheel. For the next few turns, the hand appeared again. After having had enough, the man decided to jump out and he ran to Santa Cruz.



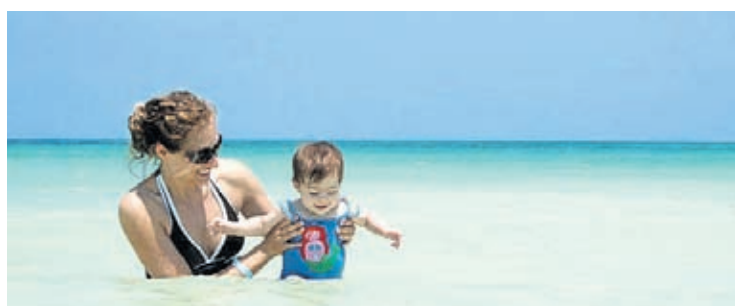
Arriving at a nearby bar, he ordered a drink and began to tell everyone about his experience. Everyone grew quiet, because they realized he wasn't some drunk messing around; he was telling the truth.

Sometime later, two men walked into the bar and one of them noticed the hitchhiker. He called out to his buddy and said: "Look, there's the idiot who sat

in our car when we were pushing it!"

French man's pass is one of the few sites on the island that keeps the locals on their toes. While most ghost stories may not have real grounds—or some may even be a set up story for a joke, this pass contributes a lot to our culture of folkloric story-telling.

Source: visitaruba.com



(Oranjestad)—One of the biggest concerns that parents have when travelling with their children is a guarantee of their safety and healthy enjoyment. Therefore, we thought it would be a great help to traveling parents to list off some of the most family-friendly beaches around the island.

Baby Beach in San Nicolas Baby Beach is one Aruba's most popular and visited beaches, and for good rea-

son: This sandy and quiet lagoon is a great place for parents to sit back and relax while their children play in the shallow shores of the beach. Beside the relaxing atmosphere, there are also several services that may accommodate your stay, like a parking lot, sun tent rentals, chairs, bathrooms and a snack bar right at the far left of the beach.

Mangel Halto in Pos Chiquito

Aruba's most family-friendly beaches

Mangel Halto is situated in the back streets of the Pos Chiquito city. Though there are several stairs on the sides of the beach cliff leading you down, the best spot for families to hang out is across the bridge, passed the mangrove trees near the entrance sign. Here, there are small and big palapas, perfect for big and small families to set up their belongings. In this area, the shore is also shallow, falling right around your knee before slowly getting deeper: perfect for kids to safely play.

Eagle Beach/Palm Beach in the hotel area Yet another highly popular

beach sites, Eagle Beach and Palm Beach is where most of our visitors go to tan, swim or play in the white sand. Because they are near the low-rise and high-rise hotel areas, these beaches are the most accessible for visitors on foot. These beaches also offer many palapas free to use, but you can also rent chairs and tents. Much like Baby Beach, these sites are one of the best beaches for your children to play and build sand castles.

Boca Catalina in Malmok Boca Catalina is a small bay beach near the Malmok beach area further down the hotel areas. Though it

may not be a very sandy beach, it is relatively quiet and tranquil. This is a great place for family to lay down a big blanket and have a little picnic. This is also one of the best places to snorkel, as this area is filled with little fish and corals, even close to the shore.

Palm Island

Ok, this one is technically not a beach, but a must-visit attraction for family fun. This small water park oasis is located further down the Mangel Halto Beach and is reachable by boat. This water park offers 6 hours of fun activities, food, drinks, and a chance to see pink flamingoes up close! □



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Aruba's underwater wonderland

ORANJESTAD - Exploring the underwater wonders is something you should definitely do during your stay in Aruba. The underwater world has everything to offer that makes a snorkel trip so exceptional; an impressive, colorful sea life with exotic fishes, turtles and beautiful coral reef. The historic shipwrecks, located on the Aruban seabed are also worth a visit. Aruba is known for its white beaches and blue oceans, which means there are many fascinating underwater spots, where you can take your snorkeling gear and we selected the top spots for you.

Tres Trapi

Tres Trapi means tree steps in Papiamentu, Papiamentu is together with Dutch the official language spoken on Aruba. The beach is called Tres Trapi because it is accessible by the tree steps carved into the rocks. Tres Trapi is a small rocky beach, located on the north-western side of the island, approximately 5 to 10 minute drive from Palm Beach. From the unique steps you can easily walk over the beach into the clear and turquoise blue ocean. While snorkeling you will encounter all kind of tropical fishes and sea stars. The kind of starfish you will find in the Aruban waters is the red cushion sea star. This is a starfish that is commonly found in the shallow waters of the Caribbean sea and if you are lucky during your snorkeling visit to Tres Trapi, you may come across one of the green sea turtles. Respect the animal, keep your distance and enjoy the view. Also remember; it is a once in a life time experience.



Antilla shipwreck

Antilla is a 400-foot-long long ship, built in 1939 in Hamburg, Germany. Antilla came to Aruba, because it had to find a neutral port. When Germany invaded the Netherlands on May 10, 1940, the crew decided to let their own ship sink, to prevent it from falling into the hands of the Dutch Navy. Antilla lies on its portside in Malmok bay, and the sunken world war two ship is now one of Aruba's most popular snorkeling and dive spots. However, the ship wreck can only be reached by boat. The ship is visible from the surface and during your snorkeling trip you be surrounded by hundreds of tropical fishes, but the ship wreck alone is already impressive enough.

Baby Beach

Baby beach; a white beach, with a crystal blue ocean. The beach is located on the southern part of the island. On the way to the famous beach, you will drive through the old capital of Aruba, San Nicolas. The old Aruban culture can be still felt and experienced here, so do not hesitate to get out of your car and walk around for a while. Baby beach is a child friendly beach, since it is shallow and the water has a pleasant temperature. The name therefore fits well with the beach. Baby beach is an excellent beach for snorkeling, especially if you want to go with small children, because the water remains shallow and there are still many underwater wonders to see. In the ocean there is an

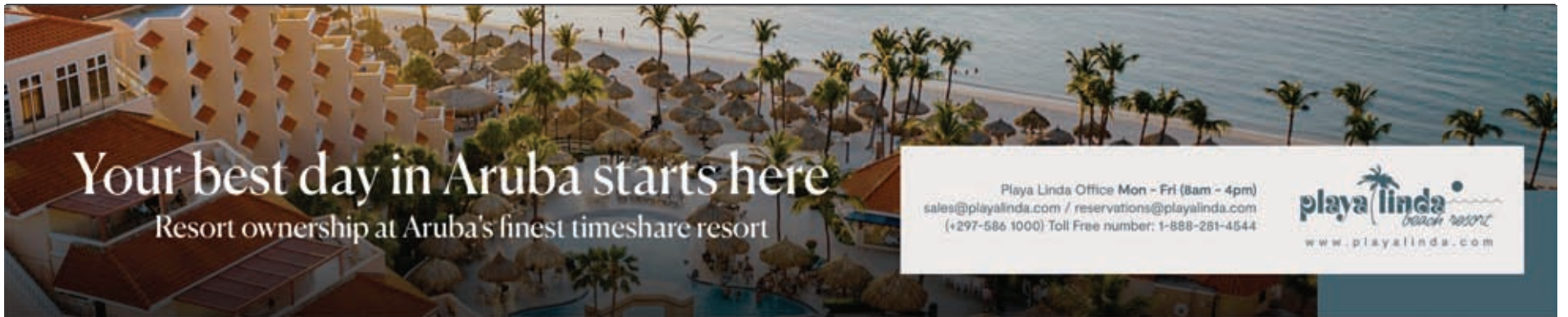


area marked until where it is recommended to snorkel and on the beach you will find different facilities. It is a perfect beach to spend your day snorkeling and relaxing.

Mangel Halto

Mangel Halto beach is located in Savaneta, on the southern-west part of the island. The beach is different from the other beaches in Aruba; it is beach full of mangroves. You reach the beach by a bridge through the mangroves and then you will have several entrances to the sea. There are diverse spots where you can enjoy a perfect beach day, wooden stairs made to enter the water and a dock to sit on and enjoy the view. Mangel Halto is also worth a visit for the snorkeling experience. Inside the bay, the water is clear and you find many colorful fish. Outside the bay is a bit more challenging for beginners because of the wind and the waves, but the coral is alive and it is just like snorkel heaven. □





Aruba Tourism Authority honored loyal visitors at Marriott's Ocean Club

The Aruba Tourism Authority recently had the great pleasure to recognize Goodwill Ambassadors of Aruba. This lovely couple was respectively honored with a certificate acknowledging their years of visits, loyalty, and love for the island of Aruba.

The honor certification is presented on behalf of the Minister of Tourism as a token of appreciation and to say "Masha Danki" to guests who have visited Aruba 10, 20, or 35 years or more consecutively.

The three honoring levels are as follows:

Distinguished Visitor (10 > years consecutively visiting Aruba)
Goodwill Ambassador (20 > years consecutively visiting Aruba)

Emerald Ambassador (35 > years consecutively visiting Aruba)

The honorees were:

Goodwill Ambassadors of Aruba **Mr. Collin & Mrs. Paula Bryan** from Ohio, United States.

Ms. Kimberley Richardson representing the Aruba Tourism Authority, and staff members of the Marriott's Ocean Club bestowed the certificate to the honorees, presented them with memorable gifts, and also thanked them for choosing Aruba as their best-loved vacation destination and as their home-away-from-home.

On behalf of the Aruba Tourism Authority, we would like to express our sincere gratitude and apprecia-



tion to Mr. & Mrs. Bryan for their continued visits to the "One Happy Island".

Top reasons for returning to

Aruba provided by Mr. & Mrs. Bryan were:
"To relax"
Aruba's warm consistent weather all year round.

Aruba's nice sandy beaches.
Aruba's friendly people.
"The food is amazing!"

Aruba to me

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Last but not least: check out our website, Instagram and Facebook page! Thank you for supporting our free newspaper, we strive to make you a happy reader every day again.

For today we received a lovely message from Diane & Joseph Towler from Evansville, IN.

They wrote to us saying; "Have been coming to Aruba since 2004. ARUBA TO ME means thanks for the memories. Aruba is a vacation I live for every day I am away. For 19 years we have enjoyed the islands old charm every time and explore a new experience on every trip.

New - We did a Yacht boat island tour on the CO-COLIZO with friends and had a ball.

Favorite Old - Our daily noon visits at the Ocean Club Antilla Beach bar were filled with Aruba charm and great times."

Thank you for sending us this wonderful message sharing what Aruba means to you with us and our readers!



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Episode 9 Geo insular patrimony; an ancient heritage Landscape character



If we must define Aruba's landscape today. We can differentiate three basic geological formations. One is a hilly part, second by an undulating part and a third part consisting of limestone which embraces these two zones mentioned before and forming also the coast line.

The central hilly part is where you can find the highest hills of the island.

The highest point of the island (Jamanota 189 m) and most of the other hills (Arikok 184m) are situated in the central part of the island. This landscape is constituted of the rock unit called the Aruba Lava Formation (ALF). This rock unit has two main components, volcanic rock and metamorphic rock. The hills are made up of the resistant volcanic rocks. The most common of these rocks

is diabase, a hard, black rock. The metamorphic rock, schist, is a less hard, green rock with a sheet-like structure. The parts of the ALF landscape which consist of schist are the less resistant.

It is in these parts where water is transported after rainfall, forms guts or rooien. These cut across the valleys of the ALF area. Such guts are not significantly deep and the weathered material which has accumulated around them is limited. Outcrops and small hills of the ALF manifest themselves all along the northern coast of the island. This northern coast is rugged with some small bays cutting through it. The geological processes by which these rocks were created are complicated by the fact that numerous events which took place influenced these processes through the ages.

The ALF landscape seems to have had a specific function for the prehistoric inhabitants. The specific function of this landscape is reflected in the fact that both stone extraction camps can be found on, or close to this landscape. Coashiati is one of these locations, situated north of Jamanota hill and is part of the ALF landscape. Dos Playa; two beaches in Papiamentu, is made up of two bays at the northern coast.

The plateau between these two bays is formed partly by the ALF with much debris of this rock unit scattered around. One small Pre-ceramic site found is called Daimari. It is situated on one of the outcrops of the ALF. No ceramic sites are found in the ALF landscape, although several like Daimari and Boca Prins are near outcrops at the northern coast. Also, some pottery has been found in the area of Arikok hill. This landscape was obviously not suitable for long-term

habitation. A lack of good agricultural soil may be the reason for this. The hydrological conditions provided permanent freshwater at Fontein, where rainwater is caught by limestone and is released at the boundary of the limestone and a different rock unit.

The rocks of the Aruba Lava Formation were extensively used by the inhabitants of the prehistory. The physical characteristic of the rocks played a key role in determining the purpose for which it would be used. Diabase was used to make axes, chisels, knives and the polishers. The hardness and the homogeneous structure of the rock make it the best raw material for these artifacts available on the island. The polishers were collected at the bays on the northern coast and were then further polished by the Amerindians of the mainland to make similar artifacts. The schist was used as material to make pendants and beads; the green color was probably the determining factor. No tools of schist has been found, the sheet-like structure is a limiting factor when making an axe or chisel. The rock will easily split

along the sheet-lines. The rock type of similar beads and pendants found in the area_ and described in the literature as greenstone_ is often difficult to establish since the term greenstone covers a wide range of different rock types (schist, rhyolite, jade).

The quartz diorite landscape (the batholith) from the central part of Aruba towards the west and northwestern end of the island, and from the central part towards the east and south, the landscape is dominated by a rock unit which the main component is quartz diorite. The landscape here is flat to slightly undulating with quartz diorite boulders in it. This rock is black and white speckled. It is relatively hard. The typical diorite landscape is found near Santa Cruz. These are all areas with boulders and small or large patches of sand and vegetation. Places with few boulders and large areas of quartz diorite debris are found in the east in Tanki Flip, Noord, Alto Vista and in the south in Savaneta.□

Source; Island Insight column by Etnia Nativa



infini
by Urvin Croes

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Sea turtle conservation by Turtugaruba Foundation

ORANJESTAD — Turtugaruba was founded on September 3rd, 2003, by a group of enthusiastic volunteers. Ten years earlier in 1993, a Sea Turtle Recovery Action Plan (STRAP) was introduced in Aruba and the rest of the Caribbean as an initiative of the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP). Tom Barmes, who was working at DLVV (Department of Agriculture, Husbandry and Fishery) was one of the writers of the STRAP for Aruba, together with Karen Eckert, director of WIDECAST (Wider Caribbean Sea Turtle Conservation Network). This is how sea turtle conservation started on the island following a plan that is still complied with today.

Tom formed a group of volunteers around him like an organization such as DLVV, because nature does not know office hours. This group of volunteers used the name Widecast Aruba and today there are still a few of them active. They first started protecting the Leatherback Sea Turtle nests on Palm Beach and Eagle Beach. This group also investigated which other species of sea turtles use Aruba as their nesting habitat and which beaches are used by them. For a period of 25 years, a study has been conducted in which investigators monitored the beaches every morning to study turtle movement. Now, there is a good overview of sea turtle nesting activities.

There are 4 different species of sea turtle that visit Aruba to lay their



eggs, each with their own specific season:

- Leatherback Sea Turtle - Lederschildpad - Driekiel (March – September)
- Loggerhead Sea Turtle - Dikopschildpad - Cawama (May – September)
- Hawksbill Sea Turtle - Karetschildpad - Caret (June – December)
- Green Turtle - Soepschildpad - Turtuga Blanco (July-November)



Investigators also reached a better understanding and overview of the biggest threats to the sea turtles' existence in Aruba and how these problems should be tackled. Despite the hard work all those years, most problems have not really gone away. Luckily—and thanks to the enormous efforts from the volunteers, the sea turtles are still here. On Aruba, the sea turtles are threatened with extinction by pollution, people driving ATVs on dunes and beaches and the loss of nesting beaches due to coastal development for tourism. Because coastal development comes with artificial lighting, these can cause major issues for sea turtles. Female turtles usually come ashore at night looking for a dark beach to make her nest. However, a dark beach is hard to find here nowadays. Light causes stress and can result in her returning to the sea without laying her eggs. Furthermore, artificial lighting causes disorientation for the baby sea turtles (hatchlings).

They crawl towards artificial light sources (like streetlights, hotel lights, etc.) and end up walking in the opposite direction towards the hotels and away from the sea. In the 90's, it was a common occurrence to find complete nests of about 70 hatchlings dead on the street due to being run over by passing cars. Thanks to their protection methods and a lot of time and effort, the volunteers of Turtugaruba have

managed to get this under control. However, for long-term prevention, there must be less light visible on the beaches and a strict regulation of it. Sea turtles simply need dark nesting beaches for their survival. It is clear that even more coastal development would not make the situation better for the sea turtles. Do we need more hotel rooms? And even busier beaches? These are the choices that Aruba has to make. Do we want to leave a place for the sea turtles? Not only do we need sea turtles, but so does the rest of the world! Sea turtles play a vital role in keeping our oceans healthy. The Green Turtle, for example, keeps the sea grasses on the bottom of the sea short and therefore a healthy place for many fish to deposit their eggs. The Leatherback, the largest turtle of the world, eats mainly jellyfish and helps maintain the balance between jellyfish and plankton.

Despite the threats that exist on Aruba, the turtles still keep coming. That's why today Turtugaruba is especially proud of the volunteers and the many people and organizations of our community that carry a warm place in their hearts for the sea turtles. All four species are active now, which means all hands on deck in the field for us, the volunteers. We strive to keep the sea turtles, our oldest 'repeat guests', always coming back to Aruba and get the chance to reproduce here. □

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

- 1 44th president
- 6 Window makeup
- 11 Air traffic aid
- 12 Arm bones
- 13 Follow as a result
- 14 Glorify
- 15 April forecast
- 17 "The Simpsons" bartender
- 18 Coffee shop workers
- 22 Aid in crime
- 23 Lyric poets
- 27 Gymnast Comaneci
- 29 Yearly record
- 30 Confine to home
- 32 "You've — point"
- 33 Leave for a bit
- 35 Easy victim
- 38 Grumpy response to an alarm clock
- 39 Sound from a smithy
- 41 Tourist stop
- 45 French farewell
- 46 Bear out
- 47 Devilfish

DOWN

- 1 Mine matter
- 2 Prohibit
- 3 TV spots
- 4 Indian Ocean island
- 5 Regions
- 6 Caribbean island
- 7 Not strict
- 8 First man
- 9 Farm structure
- 10 Location
- 16 "How was — know?"
- 18 Fire-cracker sound
- 19 "Two guys walk into —..." (joke start)
- 20 Give a new look to
- 21 South China Sea island
- 24 January forecast
- 25 "Toodlee-oo!"
- 26 Do in
- 28 Carib-bean island
- 31 Rep.'s rival

LEFTS	CHEAP
ALPHA	PASTE
TAROT	ASTOR
TIGRIS	ELI
ENE	RUSSELL
RED	IDIOMS
ASSTS	WET
PORTIA	AMA
CRUISER	RICHES
HAT	SHIRT
AGLOW	TINGE
SUEDE	SPEED
METED	

Saturday's answer

- 20 Give a new look to
- 21 South China Sea island
- 24 January forecast
- 25 "Toodlee-oo!"
- 26 Do in
- 28 Carib-bean island
- 31 Rep.'s rival
- 34 Service station fixtures
- 35 Con
- 36 Alan of "M*A*S*H"
- 37 Aspirin target
- 40 Tennis need
- 42 Road rescue
- 43 First woman
- 44 Was ahead

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47									

6-26

AXYDI.BAAXR
is LONGFELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three I's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

6-26

CRYPTOQUOTE

RB SZG IFED, ZEX BYD SPLNX
GTDNNDX PC LPGDG, BYD GFEgyRED
SZG NRQD VPSXDL DX APNX
PHDL BYD ALZGGM YRNNGRXD.

TZFX YZLB NPHDNZKD

Saturday's Cryptoquote: WHEN A FATHER SPEAKS, MAY HIS CHILDREN HEAR THE LOVE IN HIS VOICE ABOVE ALL ELSE. — UNKNOWN

Biden and Modi meet Apple, Google CEOs and other executives as Indian premier wraps state visit

By CHRIS MEGERIAN and AAMER MADHANI Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Joe Biden and Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday joined top American and Indian executives in talks to increase cooperation between the two countries on artificial intelligence, semiconductor production and space. On the final day of Modi's four-day state visit, the leaders put a spotlight on the "Innovation Handshake," a new initiative aimed at addressing regulatory hurdles that stand in the way of partnership between the two countries. "Our countries are taking innovation and cooperation to new levels," Biden told the group, which included Apple CEO Tim Cook, Google CEO Sundar Pichai and Microsoft CEO Satya Nadella. "We're going to see more technological change ... in the next 10 years than we've seen in the last 50 years." White House officials say India's deep talent pool will be crucial in building more resilient supply chains and



President Joe Biden speaks with India's Prime Minister Narendra Modi during a meeting with American and Indian business leaders in the East Room of the White House, Friday, June 23, 2023, in Washington.

(AP Photo/Evan Vucci)

developing technology to address climate change. All this comes as the administration has sought to put the U.S.-India relationship on a higher plane in the face of an ascendant China in the Indo-Pacific. Modi commended Biden for seeing "the possibility that India represents." As part of Modi's state's visit — the first by an Indian leader since Manmohan Singh in 2009 — the two leaders announced several major investments by U.S.-based companies in

India. Micron Technology has agreed to build a \$2.75 billion semiconductor assembly and test facility in India, with Micron spending more than \$800 million and India financing the rest. U.S.-based Applied Materials will launch a new semiconductor center for commercialization and innovation in India, and Lam Research, another semiconductor manufacturing equipment company, will start a training program for 60,000 Indian engineers. □

Buttigieg warns airlines to finish retrofitting planes to avoid interference from 5G signals

By DAVID KOENIG
AP Airlines Writer

Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg warned the nation's airlines Friday that flights could be disrupted starting next week because some planes lack updated equipment to prevent interference from transmissions by wireless companies. Buttigieg said that only

planes retrofitted with the right equipment will be allowed to land when visibility is poor, such as during bad weather. The warning — in a letter from Buttigieg to trade group Airlines for America — comes just before AT&T, Verizon and other wireless carriers will be free to boost the power of their C-Band, 5G signals on July 1.

Airlines have told the government they are having trouble getting equipment to retrofit planes because of supply-chain problems. Still, the industry trade group said airlines are confident they will avoid disruptions. Some aviation experts believe that C-Band signals are too close on the radio spectrum to the frequencies used by radio altimeters, which measure the height of a plane above the ground. Newer altimeters are protected from interference, but some airlines have complained that a shortage of the devices has prevented them from upgrading all their planes. □

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Packages from China are surging into the United States. Some say \$800 duty-free limit was a mistake



FILE - Packages are seen stacked on the doorstep of a residence, Wednesday, Oct. 27, 2021, in Upper Darby, Pa. Conservatives anxious to counter the U.S.'s leading economic adversary have set their sights on a top trade priority for labor unions and progressives: cracking down on the deluge of duty-free packages coming in from China. The changing political dynamic could have major ramifications for small businesses and consumers importing products from China valued at less than \$800.

(AP Photo/Matt Slocum)

By **KEVIN FREKING**
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Conservatives anxious to counter America's leading economic adversary have set their sights on a top trade priority for labor unions and progressives: cracking down on the deluge of duty-free packages coming in from China.

The changing political dynamic could have major ramifications for e-commerce businesses and consumers importing products from China valued at less than \$800. It also could add to the growing tensions between the countries.

Under current U.S. law, most imports valued at less than \$800 enter duty-free into the United States as long as they are packaged and addressed to individual buyers. It's referred to as the de minimis rule. Efforts to lower the threshold amount or exclude certain countries altogether from duty-free treatment are set to become a major trade fight in this Congress.

"De minimis has become a proxy for all sorts of anxieties as it relates to China and other trade-related challenges," said John Drake, a vice president at the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, who argues that the current U.S. law should be preserved.

The rule speeds the pace of commerce and lowers

costs for consumers. It also allows U.S. Customs and Border Protection to focus its resources on the bigger-ticket items that generate more tariff revenue for the federal government.

The volume of products coming into the U.S. that benefit from the de minimis rule has soared in recent years. Congress raised the U.S. government's threshold for expedited, duty-free treatment from \$200 to \$800 in 2016.

The volume of such imports has since risen from about 220 million packages that year to 771 million in 2021 — with China accounting for about 60%, according to the government — and

685 million last year.

"I think everybody's got to kind of wrap their head around what kind of mistake this was," Robert Lighthizer, the former U.S. trade representative during the Trump administration, told a House panel last month. "Nobody dreamt this would ever happen. Now we have packages coming in, 2 million packages a day, almost all from China. We have no idea what's in them. We don't really know what the value is."

Lighthizer urged Congress to get rid of the de minimis rule altogether, or take it to a much lower amount, say \$50 or \$100. He said foreign companies are taking advantage of the "loophole" and "putting people out of work in stores, they're putting people out of work in manufacturing."

Last year, House Democrats pushed to prohibit Chinese-made goods from benefiting from the special treatment for lower-cost goods. That move was part of a larger measure that boosted investments in semiconductor manufacturing and research.

In the rush to get a bill passed before the 2022 elections, the Biden administration and Democratic leaders jettisoned provisions without bipartisan buy-in.

The trade provision was op-

posed by important U.S. business groups and key Republican members of Congress, so it didn't make the final bill.

Fast forward just a few months and it's clear the political dynamic has shifted — and quickly.

In its first set of recommendations, a new House committee focused exclusively on China called for legislation that would reduce the threshold for duty-free shipments into the U.S. with a particular focus on "foreign adversaries, including the (People's Republic of China.)"

The Select Committee on the Chinese Communist Party said that exploiting the \$800 threshold may be a major avenue through which Chinese companies selling directly to American consumers can circumvent U.S. law designed to prevent the sale of goods made with forced labor. □



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FILE - Producer Arnon Milchan accepts the Film Tribute Award at the 26th Annual Gotham Independent Film Awards at Cipriani Wall Street on Monday, Nov. 28, 2016, in New York. Milchan took the stand in Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's corruption trial Sunday, June 25, 2023, describing how he routinely delivered tens of thousands of dollars of Champagne, cigars and other gifts requested by the Israeli leader.

(Photo by Evan Agostini/Invision/AP, File)

By TIA GOLDENBERG Associated Press

JERUSALEM (AP) — An Israeli producer of Hollywood blockbuster films took the stand in Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's corruption trial Sunday, describing how he routinely delivered tens of thousands of dollars of Champagne, cigars and other gifts requested by the Israeli leader.

Arnon Milchan, who appeared by videoconference from the British city of Brighton, near where he is based, is a key witness whose testimony is essen-

tial for prosecutors who are trying to prove that Netanyahu committed fraud and breach of trust in one of three cases brought against him.

Prosecutors hope Milchan's testimony, which began Sunday and was expected to run through this week and next, will paint a picture of plush favors granted to Netanyahu and his wife that allegedly spurred the Israeli leader to use his position of power to advance Milchan's interests. The defense will try to lay out its case that Netanyahu

Hollywood producer Arnon Milchan testifies at Netanyahu corruption trial over 'supply line' of gifts

wasn't acting in Milchan's personal interests and that the gifts were just friendly gestures.

Prosecution and defense lawyers are questioning Milchan in a hotel conference room in Brighton. While no journalists are allowed to be present there, Netanyahu's wife Sara, on a private visit to Britain, will sit in.

Milchan's testimony, expected to last six hours a day, is being aired in a Jerusalem courtroom for judges and other lawyers — who can also ask questions of him — and for journalists and other attendees to watch.

Netanyahu, who has attended some of the hearings during his trial, arrived at the courtroom shortly after testimony began, flanked by his security detail and aides. Milchan, who is not charged in the case, greeted him in Hebrew using Netanyahu's nickname: "Shalom, Bibi!" Israeli Channel 13 aired footage of Sara Netanyahu

and Milchan, 78, walking separately up the stairs in the hotel. A screen was set up in the Jerusalem courtroom to air the testimony. According to the indictment, Milchan, whose production credits include such hits as "Pretty Woman," "12 Years a Slave" and "The Revenant," gave Netanyahu and his wife boxes of cigars and crates of Champagne over a period of several years. Along with jewelry, they amounted to a value of nearly \$200,000 — what the indictment describes as a "supply line" of lavish gifts.

The indictment accuses Netanyahu of using his influential perch to assist Milchan to secure a U.S. visa extension by drawing on his diplomatic contacts, among them former Secretary of State John Kerry. Prosecutors also accuse Netanyahu of working to push legislation that would have granted Milchan millions in tax breaks.

"Considering the many links

between the defendant Netanyahu and Milchan, the defendant Netanyahu should have entirely avoided dealing with Milchan's affairs," the indictment says, adding that Netanyahu and Milchan, an Israeli citizen, have had ties since 1999.

Milchan is testifying in one of three cases being brought against Netanyahu. The other two, for which he is charged with bribery, fraud and breach of trust, accuse Netanyahu of exchanging regulatory favors with powerful media moguls for more positive coverage.

Netanyahu denies wrongdoing, claiming he is the victim of a witch hunt orchestrated by a liberal media and a biased justice system.

Netanyahu's legal woes have dogged him politically, putting his fitness to rule while on trial at the center of a political crisis that sent Israelis to the polls five times in under four years. □

Sarah, Duchess of York, undergoes surgery following breast cancer diagnosis



FILE - Sarah Ferguson poses for photographers upon arrival at the UK premiere of the film 'Marlowe' in London, Thursday, March 16, 2023. Sarah, the Duchess of York, underwent surgery following a breast cancer diagnosis, according to a spokesperson. The 63-year-old was diagnosed with early-stage breast cancer following a routine mammogram. The surgery was successful and Sarah's doctors told her the prognosis is good, the duchess's spokesperson said on Sunday, June 25 2023.

(Scott Garfitt/Invision/AP, File)

LONDON (AP) — Sarah, the Duchess of York, underwent surgery after being diagnosed with breast cancer, according to a spokesperson.

The 63-year-old was diagnosed with early-stage breast cancer following a routine mammogram. The surgery was a success and Sarah's prognosis is good, the duchess's spokesperson said. She was released from King Edward VII's Hospital in London on Sunday to recuperate at home in Windsor. Sarah, the former wife of Prince Andrew and the mother of Princess Beatrice and Princess Eugenie, spoke about the diagnosis on her new podcast, "Tea Talks with the Duchess and Sarah," set to be released Monday.

She recorded the segment before her operation. □

Human remains found in California mountain area where actor Julian Sands disappeared 5 months ago

SAN BERNARDINO, Calif.

(AP) — Hikers found human remains Saturday in a Southern California mountain area where actor Julian Sands disappeared five months ago, authorities said.

The body discovered around 10 a.m. in wilderness near Mount Baldy was transported to the coroner's office for identification next week, the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department said in a statement.

Additional details were not immediately available. Sands, an avid hiker and mountaineer, was reported missing January 13 after setting out on the peak that rises more than 10,000 feet (3,048 meters) east of Los Angeles. The region



FILE - Actor Julian Sands attends the "Forbidden Fruit," readings from banned works of literature, Sunday, May 5, 2013, in Beverly Hills, Calif. Hikers have found human remains in a Southern California mountain area where Sands disappeared in January 2023.

(Photo by Richard Shotwell/Invision/AP, File)

was pounded by severe storms during winter.

On Friday, his family released its first statement since Sands' disappearance. "We continue to hold Julian in our hearts with bright memories of him as a wonderful father, husband, explorer, lover of the natural world and the arts, and as an original and collaborative performer," the statement said. Sands, a 65-year-old British-born actor best known for his role in the 1985 film "A Room With a View," is married to journalist Evgenia Citkowitz and has three adult children.

A June 17 search for Sands, the eighth organized search since his disappearance, was unsuccessful, authorities said. □

Bader's 2-run double in the eighth sends the Yankees past the Rangers 5-3

By LARRY FLEISHER

Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Harrison Bader hit a go-ahead two-run double in the eighth inning and the New York Yankees overcame Gerrit Cole's shortest start of the season and rallied for a 5-3 victory over the Texas Rangers on Sunday.

The Yankees won for the third time in 30 games when trailing after seven innings after entering the eighth with one hit since the second inning.

Rookie Anthony Volpe sparked the comeback with a double off John King (1-1) and Jose Trevino followed with an infield single. Bader gave the Yankees the lead by ripping a 1-1 pitch from Yerry Rodríguez past left fielder Ezequiel Duran to the warning track as pinch-runner Oswaldo Cabrera scored from first. Giancarlo Stanton followed an intentional walk to Anthony Rizzo with a base hit for a 5-3 lead.

DJ LeMahieu hit an early two-run double for the Yankees, who improved to 8-10 since Aaron Judge sprained his right big toe at Dodger Stadium on June 3. The Yankees are 12-16 with Judge on the injured list and 31-19 with the AL MVP available.

Ron Marinaccio (4-3) stranded a runner in the top half of the eighth before Bader and Stanton came through. Michael King pitched a 1-2-3 ninth, striking out Adolis Garcia to secure his fifth save.

Cole allowed three runs and a season-high nine hits in 4 2/3 innings. It was Cole's shortest start since lasting 2 1/3 innings June 9, 2022, at Minnesota when he allowed five homers.

Corey Seager hit an RBI single two batters in and Texas scored twice in the second. Jonah Heim homered and Leody Taveras hit an RBI double as the AL West-leading Rangers lost for the third time in five games.

Texas starter Nathan Eovaldi allowed two runs and four hits in 5 2/3 innings.

Marcus Semien opened with a double and Seager made it 1-0 with a base hit.



New York Yankees' Giancarlo Stanton swings on a pitch in the sixth inning of a baseball game against the Texas Rangers, Sunday, June 25, 2023, in New York.

(AP Photo/Bebeto Matthews)

After Cole finished the 27-pitch first with three strikeouts, the Yankees ran themselves out of the bottom half. Gleyber Torres was easily doubled off second after running to third on Bader's popup. Semien raced out to make a sliding basket catch in short right field and Torres was easily thrown out after he reached third.

Heim blasted the first pitch of the second into the right field bleachers for his 11th homer, and Taveras ripped a double down the left field line for a 3-0 lead.

DONALDSON GETS A BREAK

3B Josh Donaldson was held out of the starting lineup for the third straight game and had a lengthy conversation with Aaron Boone, prompting the

manager to be about 30 minutes late for his pre-game news conference. Donaldson is hitting .125 (8 for 64) in 21 games this year. Since returning from a hamstring injury June 2, the veteran is 6 for 48 with 14 strikeouts.

"This is just a stretch, I felt like I wanted to give him a couple of days to kind of work through and that was kind of my decision on that through this little stretch, but I expect him to get consistent at-bats," Boone said. Donaldson's only appearance against Texas occurred in the 10th inning when he batted for Billy McKinney and struck out against Will Smith (note surname reference if used in gamer).□



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Eagle Beach – When you think of a restaurant that pleases the needs of a whole family or a large group of people with all different tastes? Think Water's Edge Restaurant. Located at the shore of Aruba's most wonderful beach, The Eagle Beach Aruba. Water's Edge Restaurant is guaranteed to serve you a fantastic magical night to remember. Whether you prefer to enjoy the view from indoors air conditioned comfort, outdoors in the soft tropical breeze or under a palapa with your toes in the sand. This spectacular restaurant offers the best ocean view sunset or sky full of stars dinner while the crispy Caribbean night wind caresses your face and plays with your hair.

From the minute you arrive there will be a great staff welcoming you with the most contagious smiles and warmth. The intense menu with a great variety of appetizers, main courses and delicious desserts will not disappoint. Seafood, Steaks and international favorites. All on one menu specially made just for you.

Culinary Voyage

Start your gastronomic journey with a scrumptious appetizer such as the Maryland Crab Cakes, maybe the Crispy Calamari or the mouthwatering creamy Garlic Tarragon Shrimp.

You can also opt for a classic French Onion Soup, a Lobster Bisque or the famously Water's Edge House Wedge, a crisp wedge of fresh romaine lettuce topped with homemade blue cheese dressing, diced tomatoes, chopped bacon, caramelized pecans and blue cheese crumbles, drizzled with balsamic reduction. This followed by the Chef's special of seafood such as Fresh salmon filet seasoned and grilled, topped with lemon cilantro butter and served with homemade mashed potatoes and fresh asparagus, a nice plate of Ahi Tuna or a succulent pasta dish like the Florentina Fettuccine Alfredo. Meat Lovers will have their fix with choices of a devourable 22oz. Bone-In "Tomahawk" Rib-Eye, pan seared in garlic infused oil and finished in the oven or our juicy N.Y Strip Loin, seasoned & grilled. All our steaks options are seasoned with a blend of kosher salt and freshly cracked black pepper. Served with homemade mashed potatoes, seasoned vegetables and a choice of red wine reduction, green peppercorn demi glace, mushroom sauce, or bacon blue cheese butter. For extra sides the options are delectable. Fresh asparagus, seasonal vegetables, mashed or baked potatoes, fries or rice and beans. Combine your personal choice with one of the most exclusive wine from the

great selection of international wines to compliment your dish. Kids will enjoy every item of the specially compiled kids menu and there are also optional dishes for all vegans, vegetarians and gluten-free guests. To end the culinary voyage with some luscious sweetness, the desserts are wild. From a piece of coconut flan, NY cheese cake, carrot cake, chocolate brownie or our classic Tiramisu with kahlua and amaretto served with chocolate sauce and coffee jelly. Not to mention the fresh and light piece of key lime pie.

Creating memories

If you are planning a birthday dinner, here you will receive a nice bottle of champagne to take home with you to extend your experience even further whether on the beach or your own private balcony.

Live entertainment

Just about every day of the week, there is a different live entertainment by the best local artists for you to enjoy. Whether you're in a romantic mood, or more in a swinging mood, there is absolutely a night especially for you where you can combine great music with delicious cocktails mixed with concoctions. In addition, Water's Edge offers three daily Happy Hours from 12pm-1pm, 4pm-6pm and again from 9pm-10pm with all premium brands specially priced.

Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Whether you join us for breakfast, lunch or dinner, Water's Edge Restaurant & Bar offers a relaxed and inspirational dining experience overlooking the beautiful Eagle Beach with spectacular ocean views. Gather with friends and family for drinks and appetizers or a night of pampering and relaxation.



Thank you to all our guests

From the bottom of our hearts, we would like to Thank all of our guests who showed us so much love and support all throughout the year, and hopefully will continue to do so in the years to come. What we are most grateful for is that we could get back to doing what we love, which is looking after our guests. So, thank you for every dinner, lunch, breakfast, every to-go order, every glass of wine, every birthday, anniversary and date-night that you spent with us this last year. To our new guests, Welcome! We hope you to see you back soon! ☐



"Water's Edge Restaurant is where magnificent beach views, amazing food and excellent service come together."

Water's Edge is open daily from 8am – 11pm

To reserve your table please call **+297 583-8000 / ext 8106** or direct line **+297 586-9494**

For more information about the menus, entertainment and hours, please visit the website **watersedge-aruba.com**

